

MOE Compliance Updates

Thank you to all the district's that have used the IDEA MOE compliance software or attended the MOE compliance webinar and provided DPI with feedback and suggestions. It has been a busy week updating both the software and the MOE guidance. The review of the submitted MOE exceptions will begin next week.

Some highlights:

- Late Medicaid payments have been loaded into the MOE compliance exception software. The Department of Health Services provided DPI with a list of payments the LEAs received during 2009-2010 for costs that were incurred prior to 2009-2010. The LEA does not need to provide DPI with any other documentation. If the LEA coded Medicaid payments to a revenue source other than 780 (such as a 517), the Medicaid reimbursements will be disapproved so they are not counted towards the approved exceptions. Also, if you feel that the Medicaid payments do not represent what you actually received from the Department of Health services, please call Rachel Zellmer at 608-266-1787.
- When reporting expenditures under the Special Education Staff Departure exception, the amount submitted depends on whether the position was replaced. If the position was refilled, the LEA should submit the net difference in salary and fringe between the original employee and the replacement employee. If the position is not refilled, for instance, a study of services determined that there was not a need to replace the position, the individual's full salary and fringe should be submitted.
- The language on the Student Left District / Ages Out exception screen has been updated to add "graduation." When identifying why a student no longer generates the cost, the LEA can select "Left District" or "Graduated or Aged Out."
- If reporting any expenditure amounts under the Freed Up Funds exception, please do not submit more than is required. This information will be submitted to the Office of Special Education Programs, so the amount must be accurate. Freed Up Fund expenditures must be accounted for in "Fund 10" and must be a local cost that was incurred during 2009-2010. Double-check to make sure that the expenditure amounts that are submitted were not covered by State Fiscal Stabilization Funds.

If you missed the MOE Compliance and Exception software webinar, or would like to view parts of it again, the recorded webinar, PowerPoint with speaker notes, and handouts are now available on the IDEA budget technical assistance website at www.dpi.wi.gov/sped/lpp-budgets.html#moe.

MOE exception information, for those LEAs that failed maintenance of effort, must be submitted through the MOE compliance software by December 3, 2010.

On Tuesday, November 16, during the 10:30 a.m. sectional at the State Superintendent's Conference on Special Education & Pupil Services Leadership Issues, Lori Ames (School Financial Services Team, DPI) and Rachel Zellmer (Special Education Team, DPI) will present on IDEA maintenance of effort. This session will provide an over of how MOE is tested at DPI. Rachel and Lori will also answer many of the questions that have been asked on MOE compliance as well as any other questions participants attending the session may ask.

We hope you find the MOE Compliance Report and Exceptions software easy to navigate. If you experience any issues while reporting exception data, please contact Rachel Zellmer at 608-266-1787.